

Message Text

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41

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIA-15 TRSE-00 MBFR-03

SAJ-01 SS-15 NSC-10 EB-11 ACDA-19 OMB-01 RSR-01 /137 W

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R 091525Z AUG 73

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1119

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

USDELMC

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3752

E.O. 11652: GDS 12/31/79

TAGS: MARR, NATO, IT

SUBJECT: REDUCTION OF US NAVAL FORCES IN MEDITERRANEAN

REF: USNATO 3742

1. AS A FOLLOW UP TO ITALIAN CHARGE'S DELIVERY OF AIDE MEMOIRE ON THIS SUBJECT (REFTEL), US MISOFF MET TODAY WITH ITALIAN DELEGATION. ITALIAN OFFICER HANDLING THIS SUBJECT, COL ENRICO REGHINI, EXPLAINED THAT SOURCE OF AIDE MEMOIRE WAS A LETTER WHICH HIS DELEGATION HAD RECEIVED FROM THE ITALIAN GENERAL MILITARY STAFF INSTRUCTING THE DELEGATION TO CIRCULATE THE AIDE MEMOIRE TO NATO POLITICAL AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES. ITALIAN CHARGE HAD DECIDED TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH US PERMREP BEFORE PROCEEDING FURTHER. COL REGHINI REPORTED THAT ITALIAN CHARGE COMPLETELY AGREED WITH RUMSFELD THAT ITALIAN CONCERNS ON THIS SUBJECT SHOULD BE DISCUSSED BILATERALLY AND SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT SURFACE IN NATO FORA.

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2. MISOFF POINTED OUT THAT SUBJECT HAD ALREADY BEEN DISCUSSED IN MILITARY COMMITTEE JULY 6 AND IN DPC ON JULY 25 ON THE BASIS OF PO/73/107 AND THAT DPC HAD AGREED TO NOTE THE PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE US NAVAL COMMITMENT TO NATO (USNATO

3513). COL REGHINI SAID HE DID NOT THINK THAT ITALIAN CHARGE WAS AWARE OF THESE ACTIONS AND SAID HE WOULD INFORM CHARGE SOONEST.

3. SUBSEQUENTLY COL REGHINI CALLED TO INFORM MISOFF THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED SUBJECT FURTHER WITH ITALIAN CHARGE. ACCORDING TO COL REGHINI, CHARGE HAD REPORTED TO ROME THAT "THE US INTENDED TO SEND SOMEONE TO ROME TO DISCUSS THE SUBJECT WITH THE ITALIAN GENERAL MILITARY STAFF." ITALIAN CHARGE RECOMMENDED TO ROME THAT NO ACTION BE TAKEN IN NATO UNTIL AFTER CONCLUSION OF DISCUSSION IN ROME.

4. SUGGEST WASHINGTON INITIATE EARLY BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH ITALIAN AUTHORITIES.
RUMSFELD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 02 APR 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NATO03752
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS 12/31/79
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730868/abqcebnv.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: USNATO 3742
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Aug-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <21-Sep-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REDUCTION OF US NAVAL FORCES IN MEDITERRANEAN
TAGS: MARR, NATO, IT
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO ROME
USDELMC
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
CINCUSNAVEUR
USDOCOSOUTH

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005